



PERMANENT MISSION
OF ESTONIA TO THE UN



PERMANENT
MISSION
OF AUSTRIA
TO THE UNITED
NATIONS IN NEW YORK



Republic of Bulgaria



eu2018bg.bg
Bulgarian Presidency of the Council
of the European Union



25
YEARS
EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES



European Institute
for Gender Equality



*On the occasion of the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women
and building on the EU Trio Presidency Declaration on Equality between Women and Men*

Estonia, Bulgaria and Austria

cordially invite you to a high-level event entitled

WOMEN IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

12 March 2018, 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm, CR 12, UNHQs

Panelists:

H.E. Mr. Indrek Saar, Minister of Culture of Estonia

H.E. Ms. Zornitsa Rousinova, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy of Bulgaria

H.E. Ms. Ines Stilling, Vice Minister for Women and Equality of Austria

Mr. Christian Veske, Stakeholder relations coordinator, European Institute for Gender Equality

Ms. Guenoveva Ticheva, Managing Director, Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation

Moderator:

Ms. Iliana Stoycheva-Balabanova, Vice-President, European Women's Lobby

Concept Note

ICTs develop at an unprecedented speed and influence the socio-economic systems and the labour markets. They create new job opportunities and generate a demand for new skills and specific qualifications of the labour force. The digital work world is highly diverse and dynamic scoring rapid growth while at the same time undergoing big changes as regards job profiles.

Digitalisation is profoundly changing the world of work affecting not only the structure of jobs, but also the way work is performed, as well as the society in general. Nonetheless, public and political discourse hardly ever focuses on the gender perspective of digitalisation. As such, it is important to shed light on the different effects digitalisation might have on women/girls and men/boys and their careers and economic independence.

ICT employment offers enormous opportunities but still benefits men much more than women, remaining one of the most gender segregated work areas. Numerous reasons account for low women's engagement in the ICT sector, including gender stereotypes, gender divide in digital skills and educational backgrounds, masculine organisational culture and working conditions within the ICT sector impeding work-life balance. In this context, the increasing participation of women in a predominantly male sector as the ICT industry is indicative of the social progress towards gender equality and overcoming gender stereotypes.

The event will:

- focus on the major hindering and enabling factors for a more balanced women's and men's uptake of ICT jobs;
- elaborate on the economic benefits of the higher participation of women in the ICT sector for businesses and for the economy;
- present good practices of empowering women to take up jobs in the ICT sector and explore ways of promoting women's participation in the development of the digital world, including in leadership positions as digital policy-makers;
- explore employment in the ICT sector from a gender diversity perspective with a special focus on the social dimension and the importance of ensuring that the final products, including computer games, artificial intelligence, etc., are more gender diverse and less stereotypical/reproducing gender stereotypes;
- provide a platform for a discussion on how the development of the ICT sector can contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Please RSVP using the following [link](#):

(RSVP is mandatory for non-UN grounds pass holders before 7 March; non-UN grounds pass holders will receive their Special Event Ticket from the organizers at 4.00 pm on 12 March at the UN visitor's entrance on 1st Ave & 46th Str. A government-issued photo ID is required to collect the Special Event Ticket matching the name provided upon registration.)